AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a glass article comprising the steps of heat softening a glass material that has been preformed and press molding the glass material with a pressing mold, characterized in that ~~a glass material having~~ each lot of preformed glass material is subjected to precision cleaning, a cleaned lot of glass material is subjected to sampling inspection of a surface free energy, a lot with minimum surface free energy levels of greater than or equal to 60 mJ/m^2 is fed to the heat softening step, and then fed to the press molding step.

2. (currently amended): The method of manufacturing according to claim 1, wherein the cleaned preformed glass material is ~~washed to achieve a surface free energy of greater than or equal to 60 mJ/m^2, and~~ kept in an atmosphere ~~capable of maintaining~~ that maintains a surface free energy of greater than or equal to 60 mJ/m^2 from after cleaning until the start of the heat softening step.

3. (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a glass article comprising the steps of heat softening a glass material that has been preformed and press molding the preformed glass material with a pressing mold, characterized in that each lot of glass material is subjected to precision cleaning, a cleaned lot of glass material is subjected to sampling inspection of a surface free energy, a surface layer is formed on a preformed glass material of a lot with minimum surface free energy levels of ~~having a surface free energy of~~ greater than or equal to 60 mJ/m^2, and then the ~~preformed~~ glass material is fed to the heat softening step and press molding step.

4. (original): The method of manufacturing according to claim 3, wherein the surface layer is a thin film comprised primarily of carbon with a film thickness of greater than or equal to 0.1 nanometer and less than or equal to 1 micrometer.

5. (currently amended): The method of manufacturing according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the cleaned preformed glass material is ~~washed to achieve a surface free energy of greater than or equal to 60 mJ/m^2, and~~ kept in an atmosphere ~~capable of maintaining~~ that maintains a surface free energy of greater than or equal to 60 mJ/m^2 from after cleaning until the surface layer is formed.